



SOMERSET TOWN JOURNAL



Volume 56 • No. 6

Date of Publication: December 21, 2009



Brown Bag Lunch and Dedication of Judy Frankel Conference Room Set for Friday, January 15

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

Our first Brown Bag lunch for the New Year is scheduled for **Friday, January 15** from **noon to 1:00 p.m.** at the Town Hall. Before we begin on that day, we will have a small ceremony to dedicate the conference room in the Mayor's Office in memory of the late Council member **Judy Frankel**, who was a regular at these lunches. So, in addition to your sandwich or main course, please bring your favorite Judy story to share.

As always, beverages, ice, napkins and utensils are provided. If there are any questions, please call me at **301-657-2229**.

first H1N1 inoculation, Medstar says it will suffice and no further vaccine will be needed.

For **non-Medicare B** participants Medstar will charge **\$20**. Payment by check, made out to **Medstar VNA** is preferred. No credit cards can be accepted. Cash will be accepted only if necessary.

If you are a **Medicare B** participant, Medstar will not charge you provided you are not a member of an HMO.



H1N1 Flu Clinic Scheduled for Friday, January 8, 2010

By Barbara Marblestone, Trent Street

An **H1N1 Flu Clinic** will be held at the Town Hall on **Friday, January 8, 2010**, from **4:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** **Medstar Visiting Nurse Association** will administer the clinic as in the past. Any resident age 4 or older is eligible. Please call the Town Hall at **301-657-3211** to set up an appointment for a specific quarter-hour interval if you wish to use this Medstar clinic. **FluMist** will be available for children age 4 to 9; others will be given the vaccine in **injectable form**. When you make the appointment, please indicate if you prefer FluMist rather than the injectable vaccine.

Children age 4 to 17 must be accompanied by an adult. All participants should wear a short-sleeved garment to the clinic.

If you have had one dose of H1N1 vaccine earlier in the fall and are supposed to get a second dose, this inoculation is appropriate for you. If this will be your

Calendar

**Friday, New Year's Day
January 1**

Town Hall Closed

January 1 – 4

Tom Carter Away

Monday, January 4

Council Meeting

Friday, January 8

H1N1 Flu Shot Clinic

Friday, January 15

Brown Bag Lunch

Monday, January 25

MVA Mobile Office

Don't forget to check the Town website throughout the month for an up-to-date calendar. Go to www.townofsomerset.com and click on **Town Calendar**.



We have been experiencing problems with the Town's email system. Please be advised if you send an email to the Town and don't get a response or acknowledgement within one business day, you may want to send the email again.



On My Mind

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

Get Involved With State and County Issues

As your elected **Town government**, the **Council** and I are always ready, willing, and able to solve your individual problems or address your policy concerns. We are grateful to be assisted in these tasks by our staff of almost a dozen **full- and part-time employees**, and they do a tremendous job.

We are often asked questions about, or for help in, areas over which we have little legal control, but over which we hopefully have lots of influence, such as with the **utility companies, Metro, County and State government**, and even the private sector. It takes a lot of work to develop this influence and it is why all of us attend meetings, events, and conferences all over the County and State, and why the resulting “networking” can really pay off.

Yet your six elected representatives can only do so much. We need your assistance. This is why today I am urging all residents to keep up on State and County issues by way of the media, forums, the internet, even their own networking, and to communicate more frequently with our State and County elected officials, especially by phone or email.

Not enough of us realize or imagine how much our lives are affected by decisions made by **the Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller, County Executive, General Assembly, and County Council**. And in order to best influence these actions, we need to be “at the table.”

Being so close to the Capital City, it is not surprising that many Somerseters only have the time to follow national issues—**health care, overseas wars, the economy**—and I certainly don’t want to undervalue their importance. But in order for your Town government to be most effective for you, we need to rely on an active community of voting residents that will motivate those higher up so they will best listen to those of us serving at the municipal level, particularly when we want help with a problem.

I am thinking about this now because we are on the eve of another **major election** year in **2010**, in which all of the State and County officeholders are up for **re-election**. There is no better time to rededicate ourselves to becoming more familiar with the issues, and to better know those in office (and those who are candidates). It is going to be an exciting time, so let’s make the most of it.

In This Issue

Bone Marrow Drive	3
Brown Bag Lunch	1
Council Activity	9
Early Morning Swim	5
H1N1 Clinic	1
Journal Guidelines	8
Legislation	9
Letter to the Editor	8
Mayor’s Desk	7
New Members Sought for Security Committee	4
News From The Swim Team	6
Obituary	6
On My Mind	2
Permits Granted	4
Preliminary Agenda	10
Pruning to Begin This Month	3
Security Report	5
Town Email Notice	1
Town Hall Tidbits	4

The **Town Journal** is the official publication of
The Town of Somerset, Montgomery County, MD.
Post Office address: 4510 Cumberland Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815
www.townofsomerset.com

Please let us know if you prefer to receive the Journal via email.
Please provide your email address to the Editor at maxinea@comcast.net.

MAYOR

Jeffrey Z. Slavin, 5706 Warwick Place
301-654-6767
Town Hall Telephone: 301-657-2229
mayor@townofsomerset.com

MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Marnie Shaul, Council Vice President
5509 Uppingham Street
301-913-5973
mshaul@townofsomerset.com
Bill Farley, 4814 Grantham Avenue
301-961-5987
bfarley@townofsomerset.com
Cathy Pickar, 4915 Dorset Avenue
301-907-4881
cpickar@townofsomerset.com
Alan Proctor, 4900 Cumberland Avenue
301-652-4717
aproctor@townofsomerset.com

Barbara Zeughauser, 5412 Trent Street
301-951-8560

bzeughauser@townofsomerset.com

CLERK-TREASURER

Thomas Carter
301-657-3211
clerk@townofsomerset.com

TOWN ARBORIST

Barb Neal
arborist@townofsomerset.com

TOWN CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Larry Plummer
larry.plummer@townofsomerset.com

TOWN HALL

Open: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday thru Friday
301-657-3211
Fax: 301-657-2773
TTY users call Maryland Relay

Maxine Finkelstein, Editor
Deadline for ads and copy is the 15th of the month at 4:30 p.m.

Pruning to Begin This Month to Secure Power Lines



By Barb Neal,
Town Arborist

Pepco, through
its contractor,
Asplundh, will
be conducting

regular maintenance pruning of the trees to reduce potential outages. This pruning, done once every 4-5 years, is scheduled to begin in **mid-January** and will take several weeks to complete. The goal of the pruning is to clear the high voltage lines at the top of the utility poles and the secondary power lines located just below them.

Because Somerset residents have told Pepco that it values its trees as well as uninterrupted power, Pepco staff and its contractors had a special walk through Somerset with the Town's arborist, **Barb Neal**, Council members **Marnie Shaul** and **Barbara Zeughauser**, and the Town foreman, **Enrique Cabrera**, on December 14, 2009. The group discussed pruning strategies and work plans and gained valuable information.

The plan is as follows: a vegetation manager will walk each street and document the pruning level needed for each tree. For many of the trees, only a minor amount of pruning will be necessary to protect the lines for another four years. For some of the trees, much larger limbs will have to be removed since they are too close to the high voltage lines. In all cases, the crews are, by law, required to make pruning cuts according to industry standards. In other words, some of the cuts may not make the tree look pretty, but they will be horticulturally correct and done to ensure continuous safe power.

In some cases, it will be necessary for the crews to work on private trees. If this is the case, the vegetation

manager will put a door hanger on your door alerting you to the planned pruning on your property. In a few cases, a Town tree will need to be removed rather than pruned. Each of these proposed removals will be inspected by the Town arborist. We also identified a few places where the power lines could be moved so that pruning or removals could be avoided.

Pepco will prune tree limbs away from individual power service lines that run from utility poles to each house as requested by the property owner. The power service lines are the lines that are run at the highest height (the lower ones are your communication lines). If you feel that you need pruning around your service line, please email the Town arborist, Barb Neal, at barb@greenlegacytrees.com—she is compiling a list that she will give to Pepco. Please email her by **January 8th** to get on the pruning list. In your email, be sure to give the address and the best number to reach you.

The staff at Asplundh (Pepco's pruning contractor) is prepared to keep the residents of Somerset safe during the pruning project. Flaggers will be employed to keep traffic moving and the sidewalks clear. The restriction against using **chainsaws and other power equipment before 9:00 a.m.** will be **dropped** for this project as the work is scheduled to begin each day at **7:00 a.m.** Noise should not be a big issue, as many of the cuts are not done with chainsaws, but with hydraulic equipment. In addition, the cold winter weather will probably mean our windows will be shut tight and buffer us from the noise.

This is a huge project to undertake and will require considerable effort and coordination on the part of the staff of Pepco and Asplundh, as well as the Town staff. There are many trees that will look awkward after the pruning—it is simply the cost of having power lines and trees occupying the same space. Both staffs are committed to working together to maximize the safety of the lines while minimizing deleterious effects on the trees.

Bone Marrow Drive for Rebecca Galler Robison



By Lucy Freeman, Dorset Avenue

Rebecca Galler Robison, who grew up on **Surrey Street** in Somerset, needs a **bone marrow transplant** to help fight a deadly form of **leukemia**. Saturday, November 21, **Beth Ewing Smith** organized a bone marrow drive, held at her mom **Margie Farrell's** house on **Cumberland Avenue**. The organization **Swab a Cheek, Save a Life**, led the event (www.swabacheek.org). **Eric Galler**, Rebecca's brother, greeted everyone and swabbed cheeks during the afternoon. **Helping Hands** volunteers **Betty Clemmer**, **Marnie Shaul**, **Lucky Marmon**, **Bonnie Lewin**, Rebecca's life-long friend since kindergarten **Alexandra Freeman**, **Tracy Truman**, **Phyllis Wiesenfelder**, **Barbara Zeughauser**, **Ellen Butts**, and **Lucy Freeman** helped with the effort.

To join the international bone marrow registry, please go to the "Join the Registry Page" of this website: www.marrows.org/Join/index.html. You will be sent a free screening kit in the mail. You may save the life of Rebecca or someone else.

Town Hall Tidbits | By Tom Carter, Clerk-Treasurer



HOLIDAY GREETINGS from the staff at **Town Hall** – **Tom Carter, Corrie Morsey, Nicole Ventura, Kirby Weldon, Enrique Cabrera, Jose Castillo** and **Tomas Villanueva**.

Christmas Tree Disposal

Christmas trees will be picked up by **J&J** on Wednesday, January 13. This is the only day for pickup this year. J&J will make only one pass through Town that day, so be sure to have your tree at the curb no later than **7:00 a.m.** Trees must be free of tinsel, lights and ornaments, removed from any bases or stands, and not in plastic bags.



Sidewalk Clearing

Residents are reminded that our contractor will only clear Town sidewalks after a 2-inch accumulation of snow occurs. Residents are still responsible for clearing accumulations of less than two inches and sanding for ice.

Leaf Season Ends



If the weather cooperates, we expect to end leaf collection season on December 30. We will, however, pick up any leaves that are raked to the curb by this date, even if we don't get to them until after January 1. In the spring, we will reseed any areas of grass that may have died from the piles of leaves before they were picked up.

The way to get rid of any remaining leaves is to put them in your mulch pile or at the curb on Tuesdays in paper bags or reusable containers.

2010 Tennis ID Cards

Tennis ID cards for **2010** are available from Tom at the Town Hall office. Fees are still only **\$5** per family for the annual card. Please make your checks out to "Town of Somerset."



Batting Cage Annual Fees

Batting cage users are reminded that their annual fees of **\$5** for **2010** are due for continued use of the equipment. Checks should be made out to "Town of Somerset."



Last Chance for 2010 Calendars

2010 League of Women Voters calendars are still available at the Town Hall for **\$7**, or call **Nancy Soreng** at **301-986-1916**.

MVA Mobile Office

The MVA's mobile office will be in **Friendship Heights** on **Monday, January 25**, from **10:00 a.m.** to **2:00 p.m.**

New Members Sought for Town Security Committee

By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

There are a number of vacancies on the **Town Security Committee**. I am seeking volunteers for the three-year terms. Under the Code, the Committee is tasked with a variety of official duties, such as maintaining an ongoing database of criminal activity in and around Town and distributing this information, organizing crime prevention events, and identifying security tips to be communicated periodically.

If you are interested in being considered for nomination, which requires Council approval, please get in touch with me at mayor@Townofsomerset.com and send a brief bio. I would like to submit the names for approval at the Town Council meeting in February, so I would like to hear from those interested by **January 10, 2010**. If you have questions, call me at **301-657-2229**.

Permits Granted



The following permits were issued by the Mayor during the past month. (Building permits are approved by the Town Council.)

Trees:

Cecelia and Jack Benson, 4511 Dorset Avenue, to remove a dead weeping cherry and a hazardous silver maple in their back yard.

George Shkarishvili, 5019 River Road, to remove a dying spruce in his back yard.

Fences:

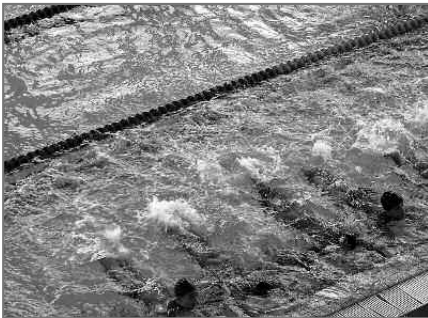
Adrienne Maman, 5528 Greystone Street, to replace the fence along her back property line and add a 4-foot picket fence to the front, south side next to her house.

Early Morning Swim Needs Your Input

By Sarah Morse, Dorset Avenue

The Pool committee is evaluating the popularity of the early morning swim: the Monday-Wednesday-Friday 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. swim session. Before deciding whether the program should continue, we would like to hear from residents regarding two points.

- ☒ Do you use the pool during this hour?
- ☒ Would you be willing to pay a small fee (\$20 for 4 weeks) to use the pool for this session?



Depending on the response we get, we will recommend to Council one of three options:

- **Option one:** Town continues to fund early morning swim,
- **Option two:** Early morning swim continues with residents paying \$20 (need a minimum participation of 20)
- **Option three:** Discontinue early morning swim

Please contact **Sarah Morse**, morsekathan@gmail.com or **Barbara Condos**, bcondos@msn.com with your feedback.



Security Report

By Birdie Pieczenik, Chairperson, Security Committee

If You Didn't Buy Enough Holiday Gadgets . . .

Crime in Somerset is amazingly low (knock on wood). But we all read about occasional and random crimes in **Friendship Heights** and the greater **Bethesda** area and feel insecure. Over the last two years, the **Security Committee** has identified many security tips for your home and family. All are helpful. All provide deterrence. But only **IF** you act on them.

Since this column was written when I was holiday shopping, I have been thinking of inexpensive gadgets that can both deter crime and give you comfort. For example, six years ago I installed a **fake security camera** near my kitchen window that points towards the cars in my carport. It's a battery-operated replica of a high-end security camera, and it cost **\$25**. For **\$60** you can install a wireless driveway alarm system, also battery-operated, that detects people and vehicles coming up your driveway. And for **\$129**, there is a wireless receiver for your home that connects to an infrared motion sensor that shines an invisible beam across doors, windows, and driveways, and alerts you to visitors by a chime that sounds in your house. All of these gadgets and more can be viewed online on a variety of sites, including: www.security2020.net, www.gadgetshack.com, or www.absoluteautomation.com.

Do you really need them? Maybe not. The amount and nature of crime in Somerset does **NOT** warrant a siege mentality. It warrants **good locks, lights** and **common sense**. But every time an incident occurs in the area it unnerves us all. So for both deterrence and mental comfort, why not check out the many gadgets found online.

Incidents/Crimes Reported in Somerset for November: Alleged Criminal Offenses (assault, burglary, etc)—None.

Traffic Offenses

Several citations and warnings were issued to a mix of residents and non-residents for:

- Parking in No Parking Areas
- Failure to stop at a Stop Sign
- Driving a Car with Suspended Registration



News from the Swim Team

By Sarah Morse

It's never too early to start thinking about summer. Mark your calendar so you will not miss a single day of the **Somerset Dolphin's swim season!**

Practice starts in the afternoon on **May 24** (Monday-Friday 4:00-5:00; 5:00-6:00). There are three weeks of practice before the first meet on **Saturday, June 19**. Meets continue every Saturday until the season ends on **July 24**. The Division championship is July 24 in the morning and the team banquet is on the same Saturday in the evening. The **All Star Events** are the next weekend. There are also meets every Wednesday night starting on **June 23** ending with **B Relay Carnival** on **July 22**. Morning practice will begin **June 17** at **8:30 a.m.** and kids can come to either morning or afternoon practice or both!

For those who have forgotten, the Dolphins are in the **J Division** for **2010**, **seeded sixth** and swimming on Saturdays against **Plantations, Eldwick, Carderock Springs, Lakelands** and **Norbeck Grove**. On Wednesday nights, we swim **Little Falls, Palisades, Mohican**, and **CCRA**, as well as hosting the very popular B relay carnival.

Volunteer Positions Open

This year is an especially good year to get involved since many of our long-time volunteers are retiring as their kids age off the team. Please consider becoming a **B-rep, a treasurer-in-waiting, an A rep-in-waiting, a concession chair** or the **mini coordinator**. We also need people to **train as referees** and **starters**.

Please contact **Sarah** at morsekathan@gmail.com to get more information about these jobs.

What is the Somerset Swim Team?

For those new to the neighborhood, the swim team is Somerset's only Town-sponsored sports team. The team is open to all Town residents **ages 18 and under**, regardless of their ability. **No try outs!** While, swimming is an important part of the team, we also have a lot of fun. Besides the twice weekly meets, we have **weekly social events, like dessert contests, laser tag, spend the night at the pool, and spaghetti dinners**. There is also a **developmental team, the Minis, for kids ages 4 to 7** who can swim at least 15 yards. These younger swimmers practice only 3 half-hour sessions a week and have only one meet.

So when you're making your summer plans, leave some time for the swim team. Whether you're here for 3 weeks or the whole season; whether you can practice 3 times a week or every day, we want you on the team. You can't have a community team without the community participating. Call **Sarah Morse** at **301-907-3298**, or [email morsekathan@gmail.com](mailto:morsekathan@gmail.com) for more information.



Obituary

Judy Graves

Judy Graves, former long-time resident on **Grantham Avenue**, passed away on **December 11**. Judy and her spouse **Harold** built their home on **Grantham Avenue** in 1955 and Judy lived there for more than **50 years**. Judy was a **journalist** who graduated from the **University of West Virginia School of Journalism**, after which she was very active in democratic politics and

interviewed many high profile political figures. She later worked for **Information Services**, a non-profit organization that helps people returning part-time to the medical field, often after raising a family. Judy's husband **Harold** worked at the **World Bank**, and they travelled the world together. They raised three sons in Somerset, **Thomas, Michael** and **Steven**. Judy moved about two years ago to the nursing home at **Sibley Memorial Hospital Renaissance**.



By Mayor Jeffrey Slavin

Many thanks to **Sarah Morse** (Dorset) for her leadership once again in putting together the **Town's Community Service Day** earlier this month at the Town Hall. Assisted by **Mary Geffroy** (Essex), **David Kathan** (Dorset), and **P. Kaye Haniffee** (Falstone), more than thirty volunteers made more than **300 sandwiches, 43 gift bags full of snacks and toiletries, 20 beautifully wrapped gifts of linens and towels, 12 fancy dinner baskets, and 75 catnip toys, and stuffed**

1,000 envelopes to help nonprofit organizations in our area deliver services and goods to families in need. **Community Council for the Homeless, Petmac, A Wider Circle, and Neighbors First program** have sent their gratitude. This is especially important at holiday time and during this period of financial uncertainty. I look forward to the Town doing more projects like this in 2010.

Hats off to **Diane Horn** (Surrey), who set up a meeting I attended recently to begin talking about ways we as a Town can advocate, learn, and participate in raising our level of good health. For the time being, we will call them our **Wellness Group**. There were a variety of suggestions made about future lectures, group exercise, healthy cooking, and the like. The Group was also interested in exploring programs at the new County recreation center in **Friendship Heights**. They will be publicizing their work through the Town's communications network. In the meantime, anyone interested in learning more should contact Diane directly at **301-654-0310**.

Per the Council's request, I have been in touch with **Craig Zucker**, Deputy Chief of Staff to Maryland Comptroller **Peter Franchot**, to ask for a meeting to discuss the process by which the Town receives income tax revenues from the State. In the past our **Audit Committee** has been concerned that perhaps we are not obtaining all the tax revenues we are entitled to. Hopefully, we can get some assurances at this future meeting, along with a better understanding as to how it all works.

I was pleased to attend a charity dance called the "**Rock N Roll Circle of Giving**" last week sponsored by the **Somerset Elementary School PTA** and their non-profit partner—**A Wider Circle** (once again)—at the school. This event was not just for school parents—it was a community event—and the price of admission was an unwrapped new toy, book, or gift card to be given to a needy child in our area. It was a great way to teach children the meaning of philanthropy.

I was also pleased that the entire Town Council attended the **Maryland Municipal League's annual legislative dinner** at the **Washingtonian Marriott** this year and learned about the League's legislative agenda for the upcoming **Annapolis session**. We hosted our own **Senator Brian Frosh** (Grantham) and the entire **District 16 delegation**, including **Delegates Susan Lee, Bull Frick, and Bill Bronrott** were also there.

As a reminder, anyone in Town can still purchase a Somerset commemorative license plate like many of us have. Get in touch with me if you are interested.

To make our election process more efficient, the **Board of Elections** has recommended some amendments to the Town Charter. These amendments are currently being reviewed by the **Town Attorney** and **our staff** and should be ready to be introduced in January.

Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season and a productive year in 2010.



Letter to the Editor

From Barbara Hoover,
Cumberland Avenue

I understand the **Council** is working on a new proposal to provide trash services for our town, which prompts me to share some thoughts.

I have long been an advocate for the large blue rolling bins provided by **Montgomery County** to its residents for recycling paper products and find Somerset's method outdated and counterproductive to good recycling habits. **The following information may convince you to sanction a change:**

If the **413 households** in Somerset use **five bags per week** for their recycling paper products, we **waste 107,380 bags per year** and equally as many **gallons of water** to produce them. Large rolling bins could save **153 15-year old trees**, **conserve 3,420 gallons of oil**, and **reduce polluting air emissions** by countless amounts. What an incredible accomplishment that would be!

Let's join our neighbors who have already been making a great environmental contribution for more than two years.

Journal Guidelines

- Deadline (designated by editor) is 4:30 p.m. on the 15th of each month. Articles submitted after the deadline might not be included in that month's Journal.
- Maximum length of articles by individual Council members and committee members, 500 words per issue.
- Research and information articles assigned by the Council or the Mayor can moderately exceed the 500 word limit in order to present complete information.
- Maximum length of obituaries and unsolicited articles by residents, 300 words.
- Maximum length of Letters to the Editor, 150 words.
- There is no promotion or advertisement of business or commercial interests within Journal articles, with the exception of Classified ads.
- Classified ads must be placed by a resident and contain resident's phone number.
- The Editor will exercise judgment on article length and appropriateness (Town Code grants authority to Editor for final decisions). The Editor may review changes to articles with author if time permits.
- The Publisher (the Mayor) authorizes final publication of the Journal.

Submission requirements for Journal:

- All items to be included in the Journal must be sent directly to Editor and must conform to the word limits outlined above.
- MSWord or text format by email, or typed and delivered.
- All inserts, artwork, and inclusions come through Editor to go to printer all at the same time.
- Changes to articles submitted after deadline at the discretion of the Editor.
- Documents should be submitted with no formatting, meaning:
 - All single spaced
 - Times New Roman typeface, 12 pt.
 - All paragraphs left block, including headings
 - No arbitrary punctuation
 - Double space (using enter) after paragraphs (not automatic double-spacing)
 - Any special treatment or emphasis within articles should be noted in a side note for the Editor

Editor will be happy to guide contributors in setting up their computer options to conform to formatting guidelines, or to offer guidance in preparing articles for submission.

Legislation

At the December 7 meeting, the Council did not act on emergency legislation to relocate a speed hump from 4807 to 4811 Cumberland Avenue.

Council Activity

At the December 7 meeting, the Town Council:

At the December 7 meeting, the Council:

1. Approved the minutes of the November 2 regular and closed meetings.
2. Discussed the Swimming Pool Committee's proposed budget for the 2010 season.
3. Approved a contract with A/I/Data to locate the sewer line near the bathhouse at a cost of \$4,010.
4. Postponed action until January meeting on a fence waiver application by Joe Turi, 5517 Trent Street, to place the finished side inwards on neighbor's request due to lack of required materials.
5. Did not extend the contract for a portable toilet for the tennis courts.
6. Discussed a proposed RFP for trash and recycles and postponed action thereon until the January meeting.
7. Approved a contract with Timberline Tree Service, Inc., to remove six Town trees for \$4,600.
8. Confirmed the Mayor's nominations to the Swimming Pool Committee of Bob Chlopak, Rick Kessler, and Missy Reingruber, and re-nomination of Jeff Aron, all three-year terms, and appointment of Barbara Condos as chair for a one-year term.
9. Confirmed the Mayor's re-nominations to the Special Events Committee of Ann Brown, Bonnie Lewin, and Sarah Morse, and nomination of P.K. Haniffee, all two-year terms, and the re-appointment of Ann Brown as chair for a one-year term.
10. Confirmed the Mayor's reappointment of Ellie Fink for a three-year term on the Board of Supervisors of Elections, term to expire December 31, 2012.
11. Set dates for nomination and election of Mayor and two Council members for two-year terms on Monday, March 1, for nominations and Wednesday, April 7, for elections, with polling hours from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. on election day.
12. Set the annual household tennis fee for 2010 at \$5.

Preliminary Agenda

Regular Meeting of Town Council

Monday, January 4, 2010 – 7:30 p.m.

1. Approval of minutes of December 7 regular meeting – 7:35 p.m.
2. Discussion of financial report – 7:40 p.m.
3. Suggestions and questions from residents – 7:45 p.m.
4. Action on proposed RFP for trash and recycling contract – 7:55 p.m.**
5. Action on fence waiver application by Joe Turi, 5517 Trent Street, to place the finished side inwards on neighbor's request – 8:15 p.m.
6. Action on addition of stoop to north side of previously approved building permit for addition for David and Cathy Pickar, 4915 Dorset Avenue – 8:25 p.m.
7. Recommendation to Historic Preservation Commission on application by Daniel Hirsch and Brenda Gruss, 4901 Dorset Avenue, to add a screened porch on the existing deck at the rear of their house and a detached shed in their back yard – 8:30 p.m.
8. Action on Swimming Pool Committee's recommendation of a management company for 2010 season – 8:35 p.m.
9. Discussion of 2010 swimming pool financial report – 8:50 p.m.
10. Action on Silver Star Banner Day City proclamation – 8:55 p.m.
11. Introduction of Town Charter amendments to make changes regarding elections, including revising the dates for elections, revising early voting eligibility and procedures, clarifying the definition of qualified voters, and removing outdated information from the term lengths for the Board of Supervisors of Elections – 9:00 p.m.
12. Action authorizing payment of \$100 annual dues to Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights for 2010 – 9:05 p.m.
13. Mayor's report – 9:10 p.m.
14. Update on pool renovation – 9:15 p.m.
15. Adjournment – 9:20 p.m.

FOLLOW-ON WORK SESSION OF TOWN COUNCIL

Review of Council Follow-up List – 9:25 p.m.

This is a preliminary agenda prepared to meet the Journal press deadline, which typically is two weeks prior to the next Town Council meeting. During this period there will likely be changes to the timing of items, and some items may be added or deleted. Please consult the bulletin board on the Town Hall porch or the Town web site for the most up-to-date agenda.

Residents who wish to be present for a particular agenda item are advised to arrive 15 minutes ahead of the item's scheduled discussion time as discussion sometimes run ahead of schedule.

Items marked ** have related articles inside this issue of the Town Journal.



left to right: Council members Bill Farley, Barbara Zeughauser, Cathy Pickar, Vice President Marnie Shaul, Alan Proctor